

conclusions were that the results with tryparsamide compare very favourably with the best results from other forms of treatment. The results were best in the cases of general paralysis. There was a favourable influence on the root-pains of tabes in a surprisingly large percentage of cases. The serologic changes relate chiefly to the cell-count and colloidal gold curve. The Wassermann in both the blood and the fluid is more resistant. It appears possible and easy to prevent optic nerve changes by proper control of the dosage: 3 grm. is the maximum dose and 2 grm. the optimum, according to these authors. Leakage into the tissues does not cause cellulitis. The drug should not be used on patients when ophthalmoscopic examinations cannot be regularly carried out.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

Insulin and the Mental State of Depression. (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, November, 1924.) Cowie, D. M., Parsons, J. P., and Raphael, T.

The characteristic glucose utilization curve of the depressed phase in manic-depressive psychosis is made to conform to that of a normal person or is completely flattened out, or is made to approximate to that of the agitational phase by the subcutaneous injection of insulin.

The amount of insulin necessary to accomplish this varies with the clinical state of the patient.

There seems to be evidence that the degree of depression may be measured by the amount of insulin necessary to bring the glucose utilization curve to that of a normal person.

The amount of insulin necessary to bring the curve to normal is a measure of the factors opposing the utilization of glucose.

G. W. T. H. FLEMING.

The Nature of Certain Functional Nervous Disturbances and their Treatment along Metabolic Lines. (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, February, 1923.) Pemberton, R.

In the course of observation of 1,000 cases of arthritis, Pemberton found many symptoms commonly referred to as neurasthenic, *viz.*, fatigue, mental lethargy, headache and migraine, vertigo, tinnitus, etc. In the course of treatment many of these symptoms disappeared. The author points out that dysentery may closely resemble focal infection. He emphasizes a fact which is not generally well enough known and appreciated, *viz.*, that various breaks in a long chain of physiological processes may give rise to symptoms resembling those of a focal infection. Generally speaking there appears to be an interference with oxidative metabolism, by which is meant the delivery of oxygen, the removal of the products of

BJPpsych

The British Journal of Psychiatry

Insulin and the Mental State of Depression. (Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat., November, 1924.) Cowie, D. M., Parsons, J. P., and Raphael, T.

G. W. T. H. Fleming

BJP 1925, 71:610.

Access the most recent version at DOI: [10.1192/bjp.71.294.610](https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.71.294.610)

References

This article cites 0 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at:

<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/content/71/294/610.1.citation#BIBL>

Reprints/ permissions

To obtain reprints or permission to reproduce material from this paper, please write to permissions@rcpsych.ac.uk

You can respond to this article at

[/letters/submit/bjprcpsych;71/294/610](http://bjp.rcpsych.org/letters/submit/bjprcpsych;71/294/610)

Downloaded from

<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/> on April 3, 2017

Published by The Royal College of Psychiatrists
